



PRESS RELEASE

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16 Year Old Arraigned for Murder after Fleeing Police

Mount Clemens, MI - Today, a 16-year old from Detroit was arraigned in connection with fleeing police, resulting in a fatal crash in Sterling Heights.

It is alleged that on Saturday, August 12, 2023, police attempted a traffic stop on the suspect while he was traveling northbound on Van Dyke Ave. at 15 Mile Road. The suspect allegedly fled police, driving recklessly. The suspect ran the red light at 16 Mile and Van Dyke and hit a family traveling eastbound on 16 Mile Road. The mother and her unborn child were pronounced dead, the husband and two year old son were in critical condition. The son has since been released from the hospital. The husband remains in critical condition. The suspect was unharmed.

The suspect was charged with Second Degree Murder (life felony), Gross Negligence Causing Death of a Fetus, (15 year felony), Fleeing and Eluding in the First Degree (15 year felony), two counts of Reckless Driving Causing Serious Injury (five-year felony).

The 16-year old, who is being charged as an adult, was arraigned in Sterling Heights District Court. District Court Magistrate Michael Piatek set bond at \$500,000 cash/surety, 10% with a GPS tether upon release. The Probable Cause Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 1:00 pm and the Preliminary Exam is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 9:00 am in front of District Court Judge Annemarie Lepore.

“This young man's decision to evade a routine traffic stop has left an overwhelming loss. His actions not only shattered a family but also eroded the community's sense of security. Our office will always tirelessly pursue justice for the families who have to live with these unnecessary, tragic events. This reminds us all that every choice we make carries consequences that go far beyond the moment,” said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido.

“This tragedy could have been avoided if the driver simply would have pulled over for our officers. The suspect made a decision to flee from officers and his actions devastated an entire family. When someone chooses to flee from police they put innocent lives at risk and the lives of the police officers that are trying to do their job. Our hearts and thoughts go out to the Gumma family as they are left picking up the pieces after this horrible incident,” said Sterling Heights Police Chief Dale Dwojakowski.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's office represents the people. We are committed to achieving justice and following the laws of the State of Michigan. All that are accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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